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L29: Entry 12 of 12

File: USPT

Dec 26, 2000

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6167441 A

TITLE: Customization of web pages based on requester type

Brief Summary Text (6):

As Web browsers become the primary interface for access to many network and server services, Web applications in the future will need to interact with many different types of client machines including the typical personal computer to "thin" clients. Thin clients can range between 60 inch TV screens to handheld mobile devices. This large range of devices creates a need to customize the web GUI to the type of device to which the server is communicating. Using prior art technology one would most likely need to write different HTML pages or different web programs, e.g., java, cgi, etc., to handle the GUI and navigation requirements of each client environment.

Detailed Description Text (10):

In the Internet, the Web server accepts a client request and returns a response back to the client. A series of server computer may be involved in the retrieval of a specific web page. The operation of the server program is governed by a number of server application functions (SAFs), each of which is configured to execute in a certain stop of a sequence. This sequence, illustrated in FIG. 2, begins with the authorization translation step 75 during which the web server translates any authorization information sent by the web client into a user and a group. If necessary, the step 75 may decode a message to get the actual client request. At the name translation step 77, the URL associated with the request may or may not be translated into a system-dependent file name, a redirection URL or a mirror site. In the path checks step 79, the server performs various tests on the resulting path to ensure that the given client may retrieve the document.

Detailed Description Text (12):

A URL or "Uniform Resource Locator" is defined in RFC 1945, which is incorporated herein by reference. As is well known, the URL is typically of the format: http://somehost/. . ." where "somehost" is the hostname position of the URL. The usual manner in which a URL is resolved into an actual IP address for a web server is through the use of a nameserver. In an Internet or intranet network, a nameserver 42 maps hostnames in URLs to actual network addresses. An example of a nameserver is the Domain Name Service (DNS) currently implemented in the Internet. The process of having a Web client request a hostname and address from a nameserver is sometimes called resolution. In TCP/IP, the nameserver resolves the hostname into a list of one or more IP addresses which are returned to the Web client on an HTTP request. Each IP address identifies a server which hosts the requested content made by the browser.

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